

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /084 W
-----004026 231626Z /44

P R 231559Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3904
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 11609

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR
SUBJECT: MORE ON TURKISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL

REF: ATHENS 11363 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. AS WE REPORTED IN REFTTEL, THE ATHENS PRESS GAVE SCANT ATTENTION TO THE GOT ANNOUNCEMENT LAST WEEK THAT 700 TURKISH TROOPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM CYPRUS. ON DECEMBER 23 THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY (ANA) BULLETIN REPORTED THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS SPOKESMAN HAD STATED DECEMBER 22 THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF 700 TURKISH TROOPS FROM THE TURKISH OCCUPIED ZONE OF CYPRUS COULD NOT BE TAKEN AS AN INDICATION OR PROOF OF TURKISH GOODWILL AIMED AT THE RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. THE SAME ANA REPORT MENTIONED THE REMARKS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TO THE EFFECT THE USG SAW THE NEW WITHDRAWAL AS ANOTHER POSITIVE STEP TOWARD SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ON A CYPRUS SETTLE-
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MENT. THE ATHENS PRESS GAVE VERY BRIEF ATTENTION TO THESE STORIES WHICH WERE CARRIED IN ONLY SIX OF THE ELEVEN DAILIES. CONSERVATIVE PRO-GOVERNMENT KATHIMERINI HEADLINED ITS STORY, "USA: THE WITHDRAWAL OF 700 TURKISH SOLDIERS IS A POSITIVE STEP*" -- WITH THE EXCLAMATION POINT THE ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. DURING A CONVERSATION WITH THE POLITICAL

COUNSELOR, DECEMBER 19, THE MFA CYPRUS DESK OFFICER (BOURLOYANNIS) RECALLED THEIR EARLIER CONVERSATION (ATHENS 11012-NOTAL) CONCERNING TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL'S RECENT STATEMENTS ON CYPRUS. BOURLOYANNIS SAID THAT FURTHER STUDY OF CAGLAYANGIL'S REMARKS CONFIRMED HIS INITIAL REACTION THAT THEY CONTAINED NOTHING NEW. MOREOVER, BOURLOYANNIS ADDED, IN CONTRAST TO THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR'S REFERENCE TO POSITIVE ELEMENTS IN THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENTS, HE SAW ONLY DECEPTION IN THE SUBSEQUENT GOT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT 700 TROOPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM TURKEY. THE 700 SOLDIERS TO BE WITHDRAWN, HE SAID, WERE CONSCRIPTS WHOSE PERIOD OF MILITARY SERVICE HAD EXPIRED AND THEREFORE HAD TO BE REPATRIATED.

MILLS

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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